W 3733

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 09/870.023 Filing Date RANSMITTAL May 30, 2001 First Named Inventor **FORM** Charles L. Branch et al. Art Unit 3733 **Examiner Name** Pedro Philogene all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number MSDI-213/PC365.05 er of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers of Appeals and Interferences Fee Attached Appeal Communication to TC Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request below): Return Receipt Postcard; Response to Notice Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** of Non-Compliant Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.121 CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name Krieg DeVault LLF 1. - 3 Signature Printed name Brad A. Schepers Date Reg. No. 45,431 May 8, 2008 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: Signature Date May 8, 2008 Brad A. Schepers Typed or printed name

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re patent application of:<br>Charles L. Branch et al. | ) Before the Examiner: ) Pedro Philogene |
|--|--|
| Application Serial No.: 09/870,023                       | ) Group Art Unit: 3733                   |
| Filed: May 30, 2001                                      | ) Ref. No.: MSDI-213/ PC365.05           |
| INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS<br>AND INSTRUMENTATION           | ) May 8, 2008                            |

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.121

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated May 1, 2008 (one month to respond), please enter and consider the following. No extension fees are believed to be due with regard to the filing of this Response. However, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

May 8, 2008

Date of Deposit

Brad A. Schepers

Name of Registered Representative

May 8, 2008

Date of Signature

Response to Non-Compliant Amendment Application Serial No. 09/870,023 Inventors: Branch et al. Page 1 of 3